

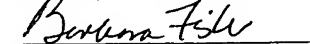
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Barbara Fisher  
Date: 6 January 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT International Application of: )  
 )  
VAN RIET, Egbert, Jan )  
 )  
Int. Appl No.: PCT/EP2003/006750 )  
 )  
Int. Filing Date: 24 June 2003 )  
 )  
CHOKE FOR CONTROLLING THE FLOW OF )  
DRILLING MUD )

6 January 2005

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Box PCT: (DO/EO/US)  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Prior to taking up the case for examination, please amend the application as  
follows: